

Message Text

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ACTION ABF-01

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FM AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3584

UNCLAS FRANKFURT 2612

FROM FRANK C. CONAHAN, DIRECTOR, EUROPEAN BRANCH, USGAO

BRUSSELS FOR AMBASSADOR LEONARD K. FIRESTONE AND AMBASSADOR
ROBERT STRAUZHUPE, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO NATO.

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: AGAO, BE

SUBJ: GAO VISIT

REF: STATE 081202

1. GAO IS BEGINNING A SURVEY ON (A) THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
SECTION 5 OF THE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION FAIR
COMPETITIVE PRACTICES ACT OF 1974 (PUBLIC LAW 93-623,
JANUARY 3, 1975) ALSO KNOWN AS THE "FLY AMERICA ACT" AND
(B) THE EXTENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 1241 (A), TITLE 46,
UNITED STATES CODE, 49 STAT. 2015 (MERCHANT MARINE ACT OF 1936).

2. THE FLY AMERICAN ACT REQUIRES THAT PREFERENCE BE GIVEN TO
UNITED STATES AIR CARRIERS WHEN THE UNITED GOVERNMENT
ARRANGES FOR THE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND GOODS TO, FROM OR
BETWEEN FOREIGN COUNTRIES. THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL IS
AUTHORIZED TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO OTHER THAN UNITED STATES
CARRIERS ONLY WHEN THERE IS A SHOWING THAT IT WAS NECESSARY
TO US THOSE SERVICES IN THOSE SPECIFIC INSTANCES.

3. THE MERCHANT MARINE ACT OF 1936 REQUIRES THAT ANY
OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OF THE UNITED STATES TRAVELING BY SHIP
ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS OVERSEAS OR TO OR FROM ANY OF THE
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POSSESSION OF THE UNITED STATES, SHALL TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

HIS PERSONAL EFFECTS ON SHIPS REGISTERED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES WHERE SUCH SHIPS ARE AVAILABLE UNLESS THE NECESSITY OF HIS MISSION REQUIRES THE USE OF A SHIP UNDER A FOREIGN FLAG. THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES MAY NOT CREDIT ANY ALLOWANCE FOR TRAVEL OF SHIPPING EXPENSES INCURRED ON A FOREIGN SHIP IN THE ABSENCE OF SATISFACTORY PROOF OF THE NECESSITY THEREFOR.

4. THE OBJECTIVES OF OUR VISIT TO THE AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AND USNATO, BRUSSELS, ARE TO (A) DETERMINE WHAT GUIDELINES HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED AND WHAT ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS ARE USED TO INSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THESE TWO ACTS, (B) DETERMINE IF THERE ARE ADEQUATE PROCEDURES IN FORCE TO INSURE THAT THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL CAN CARRY OUT HIS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THESE ACTS, AND (C) IDENTIFY ANY PROBLEMS WHICH AFFECT AND AGENCY'S ABILITY TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACTS AND TO RECOMMEND WAYS TO IMPROVE COMPLIANCE.

5. MESSRS. GERALD F. SCHMIDT AND THOMAS B. BREW OF THE EUROPEAN BRANCH WILL BEGIN WORK IN BRUSSELS ON APRIL 28, 1976, ONE AT THE AMEMBASSY AND ONE AT USNATO. PLEASE RESERVE TWO SINGLE ROOMS, PREFERABLY AT THE HOTEL ARENBERG, FOR THREE NIGHTS BEGINNING APRIL 27, 1976.

6. DIRECTOR, EUROPEAN BRANCH, USGAO, CERTIFIES THAT THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES OF THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE HAVE BEEN GRANTED TOP SECRET SECURITY CLEARANCES FOR OFFICIAL PURPOSES ON THE BASIS OF FULL FIELD INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO 10450. THIS CERTIFICATION IS NOT TO BE HONORED UNLESS THE PERSONS NAMED BELOW PRESENT OFFICIAL U.S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE CREDENTIALS: GERALD F. SCHMIDT, BORN OCTOBER 29, 1943, DATE OF CLEARANCE APRIL 20, 1971; THOMAS J. BREW, BORN JUNE 8, 1948, DATE OF CLEARANCE NOVEMBER 5, 1974.

7. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION. LEHMANN

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